RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 24th February, 1999 5th Phalguna, 1920 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman *in the Chair*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Modernisation of the spinning sector

@*21. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the spinning mills like the weaving and composite mills, are also suffering inspite of all efforts made to modernise this sector;

(b) whether Government would come forward to scrutinise the causes for the suffering of the entire textile industry, including the spinning sector; and

(c) whether Government would allocate the amount required for modernisation of the spinning sector from textile upgradation and modernisation fund?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Representations have been received from certain textile associations stating, *inter-alia* that spinning mills also are facing difficulties in modernisation similar to the weaving and composite mills.

(b) Government has set up an Expert Committee on July 24, 1998 to review and evaluate the impact of the existing Textile Policy and identify the changes that are necessary. One of the important terms of reference of the Committee is as follows:

> 'To review the measures taken so far for tackling sickness in the textile industry and to make suggestion for improving the economic viability of the textile industry as also to identify steps which would be necessary to prevent and tackle sickness in the industry, including the need for structural adjustement through re-deployment of labour and capital.'

(c) The Scheme for Technological upgradation has designated three nodal agencies namely, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industiral Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to which the eligible textile and jute units can make applications for loans for technological upgradation and these agencies after satisfying themeselves as regards viability etc., would advance loans to the eligible units at applicable rates with an interest incentive of five percentage points on such loans to be provided by the Government. Such of those spinning units as would choose to undertake technological upgradation alongwith post spinning activities including processing or weaving would also be eligible, if the proposal is found to be otherwise viable by the lending agency.

Technology upgradation fund for textile industry

@*24. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Rs. 25,000 crores Technology Upgradation Fund has been set up for the textile industry to boost exports; and

(b) if so, what has been the impact of this on our export performance?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) and (b) Government has approved a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme w.e.f. April 1, 1999 under which loans at applicable rate of interest would be available to the eligible textile and jute units to meet their modernisation needs to make such

@ Starred Question Nos. 21, 24 and 30 were taken together.

units more competitive in the domestic as well as international markets. While the objective of the scheme is to improve global competitiveness its impact can be evaluated only after operationalisation of the scheme for a reasonable period of time.

नई कपड़ा नीति

(@*30. **लाला लाजपत राय:**
डा०(श्रीमती) उर्मिलाबिमनभाई पटेल

क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या उन्होंने हाल ही में घोषणा की थी कि वस्त्र मंत्रालय एक नई समयबद्ध राष्ट्रीय नीति तैयार कर रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रस्तावित नीति का ब्यौरा क्या है और इसमें भारतीय वस्त्र उद्योग के किन-किन परिबिन्दुओं को शामिल किया गया है;

(ग) क्या वर्तमान नीति भारतीय वस्त्र उद्योग के अनुरूप नहीं है और पूरी तरह विफल साबित हुई है; और

(घ) नई नीति को कब से लागू किया जाएगा और क्या यह नीति संसदीय समिति एवं इस क्षेत्र के विशेषज्ञों की सिफारिशों के आधार पर तैयार की गई है?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री काशीराम राणा): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण-पत्र सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

1. सरकार ने श्री एस आर सत्यम की अध्यक्षता में एक विशेषज्ञ समिति स्थापित की है जो कि अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ वर्ष 1985 में विद्यमान परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखकर बनाई गई मौजूदा वस्त्र समिति की पुनरीक्षा तथा उसके प्रभाव का मूल्यांकन करेगी तथा साथ ही उन परिवर्तनों को भी अभिज्ञात करेगी जो कि विशेषकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्द्धा करने के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस समय अनिवार्य होंगे।

2. वर्ष 1985 से वस्त्र क्षेत्र में उत्पादन और निर्यात में बड़े पैमाने पर वृद्धि होने से उल्लेखनीय विकास हुआ है। तथापि पिछले दशक में बाह्य क्षेत्र के साथ-साथ राष्ट्रीय अर्थव्यवस्था के भीतर अनेक परिवर्तन हुए हैं जिससे वस्त्र नीति को नए आयाम देने की आवश्यकता आन पड़ी है।

3. विशेषज्ञ समिति ने सरकार को अभी अपनी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करनी है। इस विशेषज्ञ समिति की सिफारिशें प्राप्त होने के बाद ही नई नीति बनाई जाएगी। फिलहाल यह समिति उद्योग संघों, संगठनों, मंत्रालयों आदि के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ संपर्क कर रही है। नई वस्त्र नीति बनाते समय संसदीय समिति की सिफारिशों को भी ध्यान में रखा जाएगा।

@ मारांकित प्रश्न 21, 24 और 30 साथ साथ लिये गये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are two other similar questions, Question Nos. 24 and 30. They are on the same subject. The Three can be taken up together.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBIU: Sir, the statement of the Minister is incomprehensive. It does not reveal the information which has been asked for. We wanted to know whether the Government would sanction required amount to the spinning sector from the upgradation fund. Sir, our target in 1997 was 2,794 million kilograms. This was our production level. To achieve that target, 24 million quality spindles at 85 per cent utilisation were required. It was actually envisaged by the Government. The target in 2002 is 3,755 million kilograms of yarn. To achieve that target 30 million quality spindles and 3.6 lakh rotors would be required. Sir, my specific question was regarding stand-alone spinning mills which formed a major sector of the textile industry in Tamil Nadu. While addressing the media in Coimbatore the hon. Minister assured that the spinning sector also would be included in the upgradation fund. Subsequently, when they announced the policy, they left out the spinning sector. In the Seventh Plan they had allotted a very small amount. They had allotted Rs. 740 or Rs. 750 crores. That is all. This is peanuts consid-